## OFFICE OF THIE SHIRING



## COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES HALL OF JUSTICE



JIM McDonnell, Sheriff

July 23, 2015

The Honorable Board of Supervisors County of Los Angeles 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

## LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT 30-DAY REPORT BACK ON CONTRACT COMPLIANCE STATUS FOR THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY OFFENDER MONITORING SYSTEM

At the September 10, 2013, Board meeting, the Sheriff was requested to report back every 30 days on contract compliance and program updates for the Los Angeles County (County) Offender Monitoring System (LACOMS) as provided by Sentinel Offender Services, LLC (Sentinel). The current status of the program is outlined below:

- The LACOMS program is currently monitoring 94 inmate workers assigned to 23 Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (Department) patrol stations and 40 inmates assigned to treatment service centers, by utilizing Global Positioning System (GPS) and Radio Frequency Technology.
- During the month of June, Sentinel introduced Omnilink Systems, Incorporated's OM400 one-piece GPS cellular ankle monitoring bracelet with two-way communication (OM400). Department personnel tested the device with a controlled population at selected treatment centers and found the device contained many features that were beneficial to the goals and objectives of our electronic monitoring program. The OM400 meets all terms of the LACOMS contract and provides enhanced features such as location accuracy of collected GPS points, while mitigating GPS drift alerts. It also provides Sentinel and Department personnel with the ability to issue a summons or notice to the participant using a vibrate mode or audible tone when the equipment needs to be charged. Based on the results of the field test, the Department upgraded to the OM400 for all treatment service

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participants and anticipate completing the transition for the inmates assigned to Department patrol stations by July 24, 2015.

- On June 12, 2015, Department personnel located and returned a female inmate to custody who absconded from a treatment center on April 27, 2015. In addition to being charged with escape, she will complete the remainder of her original sentence in custody and will receive no credit earnings for enrollment in the program.
- On June 15, 2015, a low-risk female who was incarcerated for taking a vehicle without the owner's consent, walked away from a treatment center. Prior to the abscond, Sentinel notified treatment facility personnel of her low battery status. Staff at the treatment center informed Sentinel the inmate was in a group meeting and stated they would have her charge the device when the meeting ended. The inmate left the facility during the first meeting break, and due to the low battery status, no GPS location alert was generated. This prevented Sentinel from tracking the inmate after she left the facility. Sentinel and personnel from the treatment center made immediate notification to the Department regarding her abscond. Despite an active search of the immediate area, Department personnel were unable to locate the inmate. A report documenting the incident was written, and the case was assigned to the Department's Major Crimes Bureau for investigation.
- On June 26, 2015, a medium-risk female inmate who was incarcerated for possession of methamphetamine, absconded from the facility while on an unauthorized pass. Sentinel personnel notified the treatment center, as well as the Department, that the inmate had a low battery prior to her departure from the facility. Both Sentinel and the treatment center staff advised the inmate to charge her device several times prior to her abscond. She acknowledged the instruction by staff, but never completed the process of charging her device. This appears to indicate her intention to abscond was planned in advance and not a spontaneous act. Department personnel immediately responded to the treatment center to collect evidence, interview witnesses, and document the incident. They also contacted the local police department and provided them with pertinent information regarding the incident. The Department's Major Crimes Bureau was assigned the case for further investigation.
- There are a total of five female inmates who remain on abscond status. The
  Department's Major Crimes Bureau is actively investigating all leads in an effort to
  return them to custody.

Should you have any questions, please contact Chief Eric G. Parra, Custody Services Division, General Population, at (213) 893-5017.

Sincerely,

JIM McDONNELL

SHERIFF